

Etta Estrabou House
River Street Historic District
78 N. River Street
San Jose
Santa Clara County
California

HABS No. CA-2371

HABS
CAL
43-SANTOS,
36-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94107

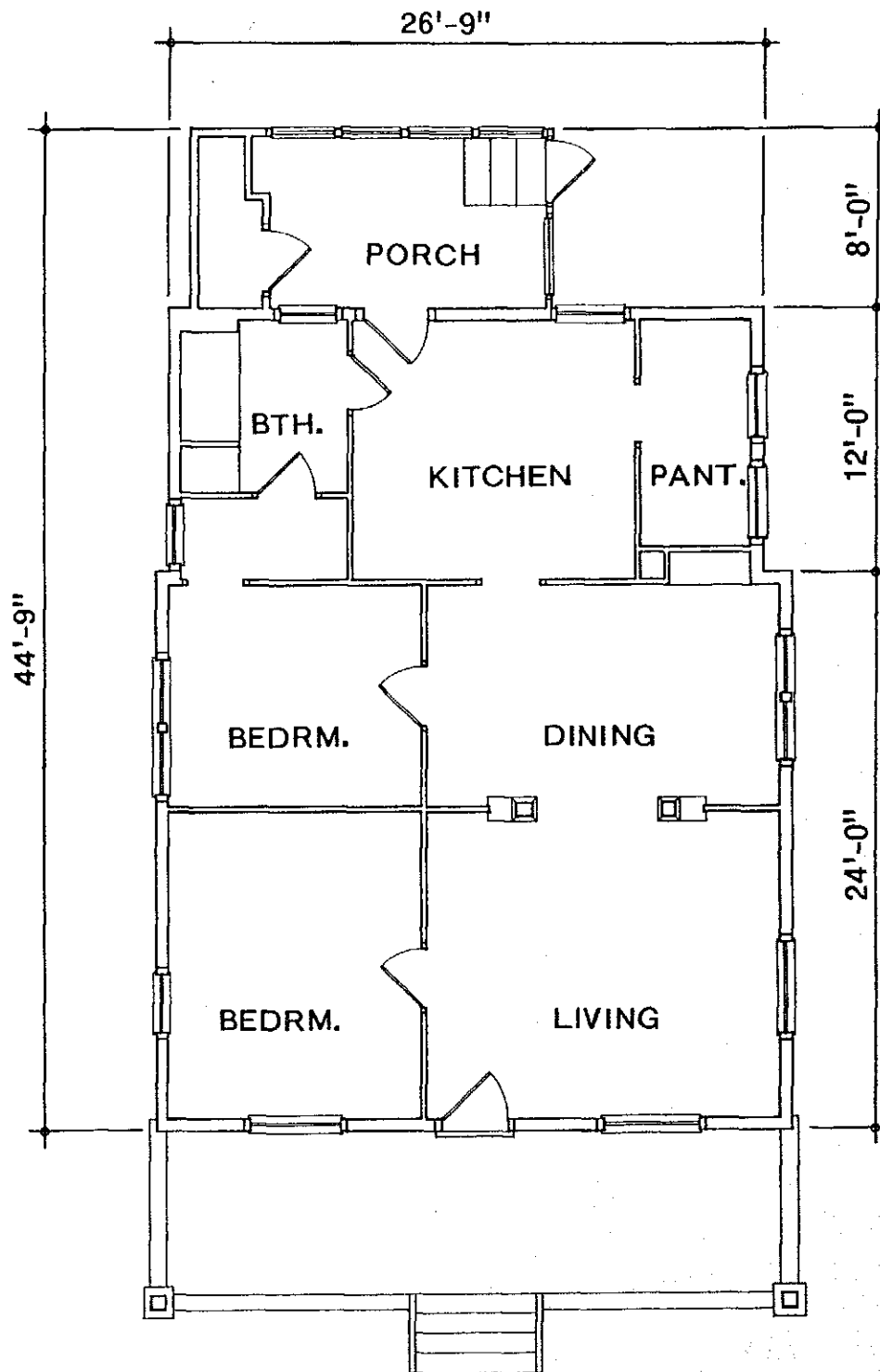
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Etta Estrabou House

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- Location:** 78 North River Street, River Street Historic District
San Jose, Santa Clara County, California
UTM Coordinates: 10-597685-4132340
- Significance:** The Etta Estrabou House, due to its architectural integrity and contribution to the urban fabric, forms an integral part of the River Street Historic District, a rare intact late nineteenth century and early twentieth century working class neighborhood in San Jose.
- Description:** This house is a one-story wood framed residence with a side gable roof. The house is covered with wide clapboards and features a full porch that extends across the front facade. The slope of the main gable, with its Craftsman style details, extends and continues over the porch, and gives the house a vague bungalow appearance. The building massing includes three sections: a square plan that consists of two bedrooms, a living room, and a dining room; an indented rear portion that contains the kitchen, pantry, and bathroom; and a rear shed addition that functioned as a storage space and rear access. The elevations also feature wood transom windows and exterior transom doors. Both the attic and basement crawl spaces are vented with simple rectangular openings. The interior features built-in cabinets and a tapered columned entryway between the dining room and the living room. This house still retains its original interior glass doorknobs and brass hardware.
- History:** Sanborn insurance maps clearly show that this house was constructed before 1884 and that the basic footprint of the building, including the full porch, has not changed since 1884. It is likely that the house was remodelled in the early twentieth century to include the Craftsman-like roof, with its wide overhangs and exposed rafters and purlins. The house was occupied from 1900 to 1950 by Louis J. Estrabou, a butcher by trade, who was born in California to French-born parents. Estrabou sold meats at the Central Market Building on South First Street. This property was actually owned by his wife Etta L. Estrabou, who was listed as the owner on the 1924 San Jose Block Map.
- Sources:** California Historic Resources Inventory Form, prepared by Stephen D. Mikesell, 1988.
San Jose City Directories.
San Jose 1924 Block Map.
- Historian:** Hardlines: Design & Delineation
Columbus, Ohio & Bethesda, Maryland
July - October, 1993



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

1/8" = 1' - 0"